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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau

FROM:	EXTENSION	NO.
Chief, Operations Group	DATE	February 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. C/Ops		21 Mar		
2.				
3. C/E&PS		22 Mar		
4. DD/FBIS		3/22		
5. ~~D/FBIS~~				
6.				
7. PO/RA		3/23		
8. SA/CD		3/23		
9. D/FBIS DC/Ops				
10. C/AS		31 Mar		
11. C/B&F/AS				
12.				
13.				
14. C/AG		1/4		
15. Exec. Reg.				

FORM 1-79 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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FBIS-6011-88
7 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- February 1988

I. GENERAL

A. U.S. efforts to reenvigorate the stalled peace process brought a new round of shuttle diplomacy 25 February to 5 March, with Secretary of State Shultz holding talks in Jerusalem, Amman, Cairo, Riyadh, and London, where King Husayn was on a private visit. The "Shultz Plan" has elicited very few positive signals from Arab capitals, the responses from Syria and Jordan being particularly discouraging, while the Israeli response has been primarily along party lines: Shamir's Likud readying a counterproposal and Peres' Labor urging acceptance of the U.S. initiative. There is much speculation that the need to formulate a definitive Israeli Government response to the plan could well be the issue that brings down the national unity government, forcing early elections.

B. Meanwhile the unrest in the territories continues, and the casualty figures continue to climb. As the 3d month of disturbances comes to an end, there have been 80 killed and over 650 wounded in more than 4,800 violent disturbances. With its international image being severely tarnished, the Israeli Government, along with the military authorities, is seeking to control the number of abuses of power by IDF soldiers, but at the same time finds itself in the uncomfortable position of having to lengthen the active duty commitment for reservists out of the need for more manpower in the territories. Little or no optimism over a foreseeable end to the unrest is apparent in either the government or the public at large.

C. The unrest and the new peace moves have brought the bureau's wordage up to levels that have not been seen since 1984 and early 1985. The bureau produced 316,200 and 308,050 publishable words in January and February, respectively, all with a Hebrew section lacking one monitor and training two others.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Prompted by a request for information from Headquarters, the bureau investigated the nature and

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availability of the Palestine Press Service, subsequently beginning a 1-month trial subscription. The service produces in English a morning press review from West Bank Arabic papers and an afternoon news roundup from a variety of sources. After initially filing a representative sample of the entire afternoon news roundup, the bureau currently produces a press service log, which will continue until a final evaluation of the source is made in mid-March.

2. The bureau was involved in the intensive coverage of reports on the kidnapping in Lebanon of Marine Lieutenant Colonel Richard Higgins, contributing some timely unique reporting as Amal and IDF elements cooperated to locate the victim. A personal involvement is felt at the bureau as some of the staffers know Lt Col Higgins, who had delivered the keynote address at the 1987 Marine Corps birthday ball.

3. After a year of unmonitorable reception, the bureau requested and received approval to drop coverage of the (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian.

C. Lateral Services

1. During the Shultz shuttle to the Middle East, the bureau was in regular contact with the secretary's chief of security and the local RSO to provide updates on media reports of disturbances and security-related incidents.

2. Topping February's "Hit Parade" chart at the bureau, a series of six commentaries in HA'ARETZ by Ze'ev Schiff on "The War of the Territories" were refiled to embassies in London, Riyadh, and Damascus at the embassies' request, following a report on the commentaries from the ambassador in Tel Aviv.

D. Technical

1. The three extra complete FBA-1 workstations that were received in Tel Aviv's initial equipment shipment were sent on to other bureaus, two to Hong Kong and one to Bangkok.

2. The bureau received ERB approval to retain its four IBM computers. They will be used in various administrative and technical applications.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Junior Editor [redacted] was promoted to GS-10 effective 14 February. STAT

2. Hebrew section chief [redacted] STAT received a quality step increase and Hebrew monitors [redacted] STAT

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[redacted] were granted STAT
special achievement awards in recognition of their sustained high-quality performance and dedication during a long-time staff shortage that was punctuated by periods of intense bureau activity.

3. [redacted] a new Hebrew monitor, entered on STAT
duty on the 28th, finally bringing the section up to full strength.

4. Communications operator [redacted] was STAT
promoted to FBN 5/3.

5. Bureau Chief [redacted] returned from R & STAT
R in the United States. The chief took the opportunity of his travels to have short coordination TDY's at Headquarters, London Bureau and BBC, and Nicosia Bureau.

IV. VISITS

Budget and Finance Officer [redacted] visited the bureau STAT
TDY on the 19th.

[redacted] STAT

Chief, FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

cc: JN, NC

Attachment: Production Report

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Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for FEBRUARY 1988

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	308050
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	62070
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1022

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	7783.00 min.	840.00 min.	58.00 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)			
(Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in Turkish to Cyprus	6270		
(Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in English to Cyprus	0		
(Clandestine) Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian	680		
(Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian	0		
(Clandestine) Our Radio in Turkish to Turkey	2300		
(Clandestine) Voice of Turkish Communist party in Turkish	0		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian	0		
ISRAEL			
Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	83570		
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	13960		
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	13080		
Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic	760		
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	29160		
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic			2430
Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English			930

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	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic			4020
Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic			140
Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic			1560
Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH Arabic			0
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English			640
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English			25130
Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew			1910
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew			6510
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew			10240
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew			18630
Tel Aviv HA'IR in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew			0
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew			13510
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew			560
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew			11680
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew			10120
TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	35280		
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish		780	
Ankara ANATOLIA in English		13630	
Ankara ANATOLIA in French		0	
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			0
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			570
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew	0		

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	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
Moscow in Turkish to Turkey	0		
Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan	0		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	0		
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	0		

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TEL AVIV BUREAU MONTHLY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR FEB . 1988 ATTACHMENT B

1. TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 308,050 (316,200)

   TOTAL NONPUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED WAS 62,070 (53,820)

   DAILY WORDAGE FILED AVERAGED 12,762 (11,936)

   HIGHEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 21,820 on 12-2-1988

   LOWEST DAILY WORDAGE FILED WAS 3,430 on 14-2-1988

2. OUTAGES ON OUTGOING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 22.15 HOURS, 4.6% PERCENT.

   OUTAGES ON INCOMING SKYMUX CIRCUIT TOTALED 21.35 HOURS, 4.4% PERCENT.

   OUTAGES:

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3. WORDS FILED VIA TELEX DURING OUTAGES OF THE SKYMUX CIRCUIT: 4,300.

NB. Figures from preceding month in Parentheses.

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